Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CU-04 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 SY-10 OPR-02

DRC-01 /169 W

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R 311859 OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5475

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

USCINCSO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MONTEVIDEO 3247

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINT, UY

SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENTS IN THE UNIVERSITY INTERVENTION

CINCSO FOR POLAD

REF: MONTEVIDEO 3215

1. FOUR DAYS OF OCCUPATION OF THE UNIVERSITY HAVE BROUGHT NO ANTI-GOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATIONS BY THE STUDENTS OR BY ANY OTHER SEGMENT OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC. ALL STUDENTS WITH WHOM EMB-OFFS HAVE SPOKEN DISCOUNT THE POSSIBILITY OF MASS VIOLENCE. ONE COMMENTED THAT DEMONSTRATIONS NOW WOULD BE "SUICIDE". STUDENTS EXPRESS DEEP FRUSTRATION OVER THE CLOSURE OF THE UNVIERSITY AND RESENTMENTNZOWARD BOTH THE GOU AND THE EXTREMISTS WHOSE ACTS PRECIPITATED THE CLOSURE.

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- 2. THE JOINT FORCES CONTINUE THEIR OCCUPATION OF UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS, WHICH WERE OPENED TO PUBLIC VIEW FOR SIX DAYS BEGINNING OCTOBER 30. EMBOFFS WERE STRUCK BY THE CHAOTIC CONDITION OF THE FACULTIES WHICH THEY VISITED. DIRT, TRASH AND NEGLECT CHARACTERIZED ALL. JOINT FORCES DISPLAYED ENORMOUS AMOUNTS OF PROPAGANDA IN ALL FACULTIES AND A COMPARATIVELY SMALL NUMBER OF CRUDELY-MADE WEAPONS IN SOME. THOUSANDS OF URUGUAYANS OF ALL AGES HAVE WAITED IN LONG, SLOW LINES TO SEE THE UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS AND COMMENTS OVERHEARD INDICATE THAT THEIR REACTION WAS SIMILAR TO OURS, INCREDULITY THAT AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION COULD HAVE SUNK TO SUCH DEPTHS.
- 3. IN PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS, MILITARY LEADERS HAVE EXPRESSED DELIGHT OVER THE INCIDENT THAT GAVE THEM A PUBLICLY ACCEPTABLE PRETEXT FOR INTERVENING THE UNIVERSITY. HOWEVER, THE SAME OFFICERS EVADED THE QUESTION OF WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT AND IT SEEMS OBVIOUS THAT THEY HAVE NOT THOUGHT DEEPLY ABOUT THE TAKS OF RECONSTRUCTION.
- 4. ACCORDING TO RUMORS, MANY FACULTY MEMBERS ARE CONSIDERING LEAVING URUGUAY AND AN EXODUS OF INTELLECTUALS IS A POSSIBILITY.
- 5. ALL OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS REMAIN OPEN AND ARE FUNCTIONING NORMALLY. SIRACUSA

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NNN

^{***} Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

^{***} Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: BRAIN DRAIN, MILITARY OCCUPIED AREAS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS, UNIVERSITIES

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 31 OCT 1973 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MONTEV03247

Document Number: 1973MONTEV03247 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: n/a Errors: n/a Film Number: n/a From: MONTEVIDEO Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731063/aaaajxvb.tel Line Count: 91

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE Office: ACTION ARA

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 73 MONTEVIDEO 3215 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: golinofr

Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: Review Date: 16 JAN 2002

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16-Jan-2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <14 FEB 2002 by golinofr>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN

Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980311
Subject: DEVELOPMENTS IN THE UNIVERSITY INTERVENTION CINCSO FOR POLAD

TAGS: PINT, UY, PINT

To: STATE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005